

Risk Management & Safety Division – COVID-19 Safety Bulletin #3

Face Coverings

Effective June 19, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom ordered all Californians to wear face coverings while in public or high-risk settings, including when shopping, taking public transportation or seeking medical care. This builds on the previous guidance, and now requires that face coverings be used when people are in close contact with those outside of their households no matter how long the contact (even if less than ten minutes).

City employees are always required to utilize a face covering, including when:

- ✓ serving any member of the public or other employees
- ✓ working in any space visited by members of the public, regardless of whether anyone from the public is present at the time
- ✓ moving through parking facilities, common areas, stairways and hallways at work
- ✓ riding on elevators.

Exceptions to wearing a face covering include a medical reason, when a covering is a risk to you related to your work, while alone at your desk, or while you are eating or drinking.

Wearing face coverings is another important way we can help protect one another.

A cloth face covering is a material that covers the nose and mouth. It is recommended to wash your cloth face covering at least daily. Discard cloth face coverings that no longer cover the nose and mouth; have stretched out or damaged ties or straps; cannot stay on the face; or have holes or tears in the fabric. **Face coverings with one-way breathing valves designed to facilitate easy exhaling are prohibited. These types of coverings allow droplets to be released, putting others nearby at risk.**

Remember: Medical respirators and surgical masks are in short supply and will be increasingly needed to safely provide care for persons with COVID-19. It is critical that these medical items not be used outside of the healthcare setting.

For more details, please visit <http://www.longbeach.gov/hr/covid-19/>

Resources:

- **California Department of Public Health (CDPH)**
https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/Guidance-for-Face-Coverings_06-18-2020.pdf
- **Long Beach Health Department (View Current Health Orders)**
<http://www.longbeach.gov/health/diseases-and-condition/information-on/coronavirus/>